

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-01 /004 R

66612

DRAFTED BY: ARA/LA:DWCOX:GMR

APPROVED BY: ARA:DWCOX

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P 232003Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 121235

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAN JOSE 2077 ACTION SCSTATE 21 MAY 75

QUOTE

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2077

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: ODUBER PRESS CONFERENCE

1. IN WHAT MAY BE A RESUMPTION OF HIS WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCES, PRESIDENT ODUBER ON MAY 20 MET WITH THE PRESS AND THE ENTIRE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY VIDEO-TAPED TO THE COUNTRY.

2. IN THE WIDE RANGING PRESS CONFERENCE ODUBER HIT HARD AT THE EFFORTS OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES TO UNITE AGAINST THE PLN AND THE GOVERNMENT. THE PRESIDENT ACCUSED THEM OF HOLDING REPEATED "SEWING CIRCLES" TO DETERMINE CANDIDATES BUT PAYING LITTLE ATTENTION TO THE KINDS OF PROGRAMS THAT THEY MIGHT PROPOSE AS ALTERNATIVES. THE PRESIDENT ALSO TOOK A SWIPE AT SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE PLN STATING THAT MINISTERS OR VICE-MINISTERS WHO WISH TO BE CANDIDATES FOR THE 1978 ELECTIONS SHOULD EITHER RESIGN AND CAMPAIGN OR HOLD OFF THEIR CAMPAIGNS UNTIL A REASONABLE TIME BEFORE THE ELECTIONS.

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3. WITH REGARD TO THE UNITED BRANDS BRIBE EPISODE ODUBER WAS QUOTED AS CHARACTERIZING IT AS "ONE MORE STUPIDITY OF A U.S. NEWSPAPERMAN."  
HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD ASKED FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO

TO MAKE INQUIRIES IN THE U.S. THAT WOULD CLARIFY THE  
PRESUMED BRIBE OF UNITED IN COSTA RICA AND INDICATED THAT  
"UNTIL THIS IS CLARIFIED I WILL NOT BE SATISFIED."

4. ALSO WITH REGARD TO THE ALLEGED UNITED BRANDS BRIBE ODUBER  
REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE WANTED TO DETERMINE WHICH COMPANIES  
WERE INVOLVED IN THE "STRONG CAMPAIGN" TO UNDERMINE POPULAR  
FAITH IN COSTA RICA, HONDURAS, AND PANAMA. HE ADDED THAT THE  
"SCANDALOUS MANEUVERS" OF UNITED BRANDS, ONLY SERVED TO  
ACCELERATE THE COLLECTION OF A DOLLAR TAX OF BANANAS.  
(SEE ALSO SAN JOSE 2064)

5. ODUBER COMMENTED ON THE BILL PRESENTED BY THE PLN  
FRACTION IN THE ASSEMBLY TO EXPROPRIATE UNITED'S UNCULTIVATED  
LANDS. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THIS LAW WILL PERMIT THE  
UNDERTAKING OF A MORE "SOLID NEGOTIATION" FOR THE  
INSTALLATION OF MIXED ENTERPRISES ON THESE LANDS.

6. AFTER LISTING A SERIES OF CURRENT SOCIAL DISTURBANCES,  
ODUBER REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE DOUBTS THE GOOD FAITH OF THE  
PERPETRATORS AND NOTED THAT THE PROBLEMS COULD BE SOLVED MORE  
RAPIDLY AND EFFICIENTLY IF THEY ARE NOT EXPLOITED FOR  
POLITICAL PURPOSES. HE SUGGESTED THAT THESE DISTURBANCES WERE  
STIMULATED BY BOTH THE EXTREME LEFT AND THE EXTREME RIGHT.  
HE ADDED THAT "WE MUST CONTINUE BEING ANTI-MILITARY, BUT WE  
MUST HAVE A MUCH STRONGER SECURITY SYSTEM IF WE ARE NOT TO  
FALL INTO ANARCHY." HE SAID THAT "MINI-GROUPS WITH ELECTORAL  
SUPPORT AND WITHOUT BEING REPRESENTED BY EVEN A SINGLE  
MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE (OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO THE SOCIALIST  
PARTY) ARE TRYING TO INTRODUCE VIOLENCE INTO THE COSTA RICAN  
POLITICAL PLAY. TODMAN

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BANANAS, BRIBERY, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PRESIDENT, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** ARA/LA:DWCOX:GMR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2003  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, CS, US, PLN, UNITED BRANDS, (ODUBER QUIROS, DANIEL)  
**To:** TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
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